THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Rail India Technical & Economic Services will conduct preliminary feasibility study for Circular Railway in Madras.

(b) About two months from the date of commencement of survey.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

Improvement in the irrigation potential

1011. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a report of the International Institute for Environment and Development has pointed out that improper irrigation has reduced crop yield on half of the world's irrigated land and rendered 25 million hectares of land unfit for production;

(b) if so, what is the assessment of this Institute with regard to non-utilisation or under utilisation of irrigated land in India as compared to Pakistan, Bangladesh, China and Japan; and

(c) what steps are being contemplated by Government in the light of this report to improve the irrigation potential or ensure its full utilisation in the country during the last year of the Sixth Plan and the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) and (b). No information is available on the report referred to by the Hon'ble Members.

(c) Does not arise.

Procurement of Wheat

1012. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the targets for wheat procurement during the current year in each of the wheat producing States;

(b) what is the quantum of procurement made so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that in the absence of purchases by State and Central Government machinery, a large number of farmers had to make distress sales of wheat at prices lower than the support prices fixed by Government; and

(d) if so, what is the quantity of wheat thus sold by the farmers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) Since procurement of wheat at support price takes place under voluntary offers by the farmers, no target of procurement of wheat is fixed.

(b) 91.7 lakh tonnes of wheat as reported on 21st July, 1984, has been procured during the current season.

(c) and (d) No report of distress sale of Fair Average Quality Wheat has been received.

Command Area Development Programme for 1984-86

1013. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved an outlay of Rs. 82 crores for Command Area Development programme for 1984-85 to increase the utilisation of irrigation potential already created and to optimise farm production from irrigated land;

(b) if so, how the said plan outlay for Command Area Development Programme is proposed to be shared between different States and the Union Territories; and

(c) what is the present level of utilisation of irrigation potential, how does it compare with the utilisation level in the beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan and how far it is likely to be increased by the end of the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Rs. 82 crores has been approved as the Central Sector outlay for 1984-85.

(b) 50 per cent of the cost of selected items of execution of the CAD Programme of each State and Union Territory will be met by the Centre.

(c) The anticipated level of utilisation at the end of 1983-84 is about 60.52 million hectares as against 52.23 million hectares at the beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan. Utilisation targets for the year 1984-85 have not yet been finalised.

Study into causes of Dysentry

1014. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research and various other national and international health organisations have gone into the causes of the dysentry deaths in the various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what were the findings of the studies made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) The Indian Council of Medical Research through its permanent Institute—National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta, has investigated Bacillary dysentry in West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Orissa and Gujarat.

(b) The causative organisms detected were shigella dysentries Type I in West Bengal, Shigella flexneri in Orissa and Tripura, V. Cholera in Assam and Rotavirus in Gujarat.

Definition of term accident in Railway Act

1015. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the term 'accident' has not been defined in the Railway Act but finds a place in one of the Sections in the Act;

(b) whether Government proposed to provide a precise definition of the term so as to minimum delay in settlement of claims for compensation for loss of life and limb in railway accidents and also to minimise litigation; and

(c) what specific events and happenings, besides collision between trains come under derailment of trains carrying passengers included in the definition of the term 'railway accident'?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) The term 'accident' is not defined in the Indian Railways Act.

(b) Section 82-A(1) of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 contains the connotation of accidents which involve liability of Railway Administration for compensation The provisions of the Act are unambiguous as to the Railways' liability for death of or injury to a train passenger as a result of an accident to a train carrying